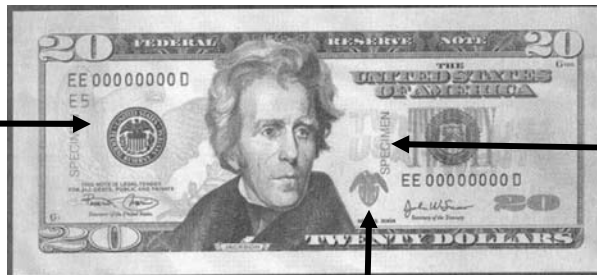


# The "NET" BUSINESS WATCH

## THE NEW COLOR OF MONEY

The most noticeable difference in the newly designed \$20 note is the addition of subtle background colors of green, peach and blue to both sides of the note.

Large blue eagle in the background to the left of President Andrew Jackson's portrait.



"Twenty USA" has been printed in blue in the background to the right of the portrait

Smaller green metallic eagle to the lower right of the portrait

Small yellow numeral 20's printed in the background on the back of the bill.



Features that are on the old and new \$20's -

Security Thread— Hold the bill up to the light and see "USA TWENTY" going vertical on the left side of the portrait.



Watermark - Hold the bill up to the light and look for a faint image similar to the portrait.

Color-Shifting Ink - Tilt the bill up and down, and the color-shifting ink in the number "20" in the lower right corner changes from copper to green

## FORGERY - THE 30 SECOND SOLUTION

A business in Lincoln started taking an active roll in preventing forgeries at their business. They started checking ID's when taking a check. You need to compare the information from the ID with the name, address on the check and is the person on the ID the same person standing in front of you? Their number of forgeries in a month went from 100 to 3. Where have those forgers gone? Possibly to your business!

**01/2003 thru 11/2003****Statistics**

The first number will be the number of reported incidents. The second number is how many incidents have been cleared with the person responsible being identified.

**Commercial Robberies - 60/13**

Northwest - 14/5

Northeast - 15/2

Center - 7/1

Southwest - 7/0

Southeast - 17/5

**Commercial Burglaries - 586/84**

Northwest - 123/14

Northeast - 137/36

Center - 52/11

Southwest - 98/13

Southeast - 176/10

**Shoplifting - 1406/1080**

Northwest - 322/266

Northeast - 425/345

Center - 176/139

Southwest - 293/232

Southeast - 264/182

**Forgery - 2409/1440**

Northwest - 696/350

Northeast - 439/256

Center - 176/139

Southwest - 281/140

Southeast - 787/521

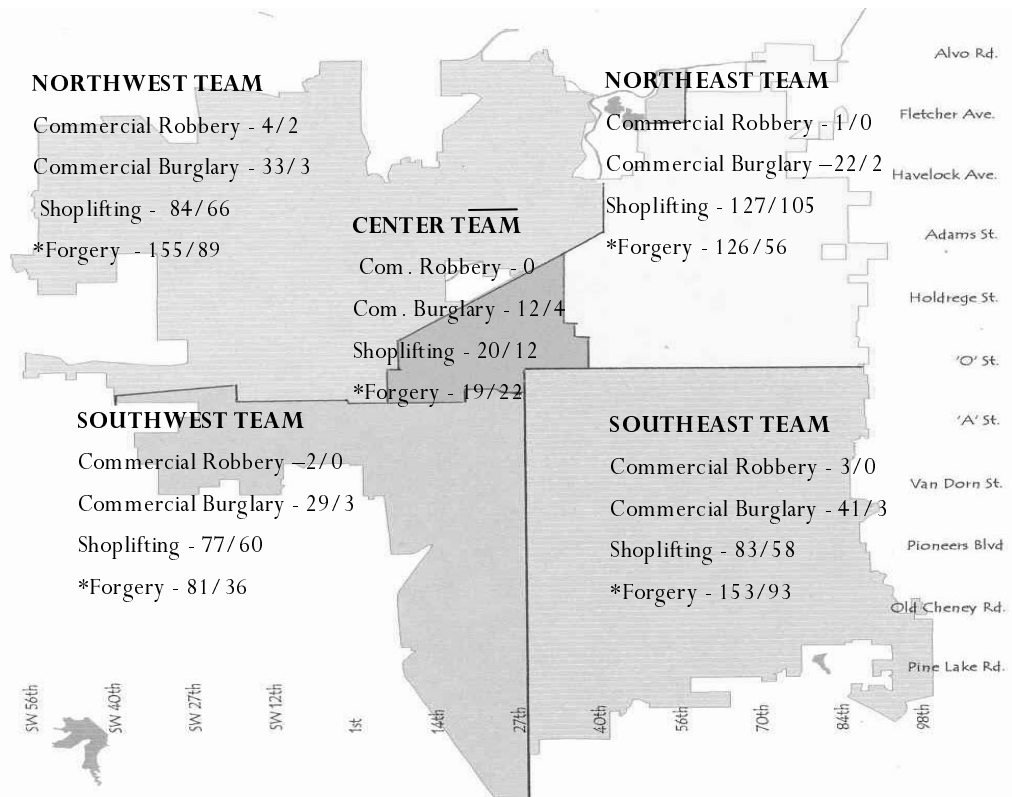
**CRIME TRENDS**

From 9-1-03 to 11-30-03

For more information about the crime trends in your neighborhood go to the city web site.

<http://www.ci.lincoln.ne.us/city/police>

The first number will be the number of reported incidents. The second number is how many incidents have been cleared with the person responsible being identified.



\*Forgeries include personal, business checks and credit cards

**TAKING THAT EXTRA STEP**

Ofc. Schenkel, Ofc. Pickering, and an alert Kwik Shop employee were instrumental in clearing the homicide of Jim Hagan. Ofc. Schenkel got a call to a Kwik shop on a suspicious person who attempted to pay for some merchandise with a credit card. There was a man's name on the card, and a female was using it. The female said that the card belonged to her uncle who was in the car and could not walk. The employee wrote down the type of credit card, the account number and the name off the credit card. The clerk also wrote down the license number from the car she got into. Ofc. Schenkel got all the information from the store and filed a report. The officer also got the video tape of the person passing the credit card. A couple of days later Jim Hagan's truck was located at Shoemaker's Truck Stop and there was evidence that a homicide may have occurred. Ofc. Pickering was detailed, to the same Kwik Shop as Ofc. Schenkel had been at, on a check that had been written on Jim Hagan's checking account. Ofc. Pickering did some research and discovered that Ofc. Schenkel was there a couple of days before on a similar case. The information that Ofc. Schenkel documented, including the license number, was instrumental in making an arrest in the Jim Hagan homicide.

## EMPLOYEE THEFT

A 2001 National Study shows losses from Employee Theft reaching record levels. Total inventory shrinkage cost to U.S. retailers was \$32.3 billion last year up from \$29 billion the year before.

Where Inventory shrinkage happens: Employee theft - 46%

Shoplifting - 30.5%

Administrative Error - 17.6%

Vendor Fraud - 5.8%

### Prevention starts when you interview potential employees:

- \*Perform back ground checks: Previous employers, references & criminal history. A criminal history can be obtained on the internet under the city web-site for \$10.
- \*Insure employees receive a written statement of key policies & procedures. Have them read it and make sure they understand it. Included in the procedures should be a statement of the consequences for dishonesty and theft.
- \* Let employees know who they can contact if they have questions or concerns. Make it easy for employees to come forward to report any suspicions of wrong doing. Give employees alternatives to report their suspicions i.e. by telephone, in writing, in person or e-mail. Assure them that they're doing the right thing.

### Management:

- \*Make supervisors aware that employee theft can occur & train them on how to handle it.
- \*Remember that the attitude and performance of store employees is heavily influenced by the attitude and performance of store management. Make sure your supervisors set a good example.
- \*Make yourself accessible to employees.
- \*Make sure owners and managers get out among the employees to see what is happening in the business.

### Warning signs that internal theft MAY BE occurring:

- \*Employees that are living beyond their means, have a substance abuse problem, are chronic liars, are having financial problems.

### Solutions:

- \*Investigate all losses, even minor ones, because most embezzlers start with small thefts.
- \*Deposit cash receipts daily.
- \*Know which employees are using the cash register. Ideally one person should be responsible for their own register, but a different person should count the drawer at the end of the shift.
- \*Have two people working at all times.
- \*Limit the number of people who have keys and the combination to the safe. Have the keys stamped with "Do Not Duplicate" and do not post the combination of the safe for employees to see.
- \*Do not permit an employee to make a sale to their self or to a family member.
- \*Change all locks and combinations when changing custodial or other personnel.
- \*Number all refunds and sales checks.
- \*Install a video camera to monitor customer and employee activity.

One of the businesses in Lincoln put up video camera's to guard against burglary and robbery but what they caught on tape was their own employees stealing from them.

The next issue will continue with the methods employee's use to steal.

## **THE "NET" BUSINESS**

**LINCOLN POLICE DEPARTMENT  
CRIME PREVENTION GROUP  
575 S. 10TH St.  
Lincoln, Nebraska 68508**

***Return Service***



## **Safe Travel USA**

The "Safe Travel USA" web-site offers current information to travelers about weather and road conditions. The site, sponsored by Meridian Environmental Technology Inc., includes Nebraska, South & North Dakota, Minnesota, Montana and Kansas. More states will be added as they become available.  
**[www.safetravelUSA.com](http://www.safetravelUSA.com)**

I received a letter from one of the businesses in Business Watch regarding a e-mail they received, subject: "HOME SECURITY", which indicated the use personal information on the key card used at hotels. I checked with some of the major hotel chains in Lincoln. They said they do not put any information on the key card except the room number, possibly the number of days the customer will be staying, and the code to open the door. The machine that puts the code on the card is not hooked up to the computer. If you ever receive some information that I may be able to help clarify, don't hesitate to call, mail, or fax the information to me.

Officer Nancy Willemsen, Lincoln Police Department  
575 So. 10th Lincoln NE 68516  
441-8294, Fax 441-8492

**e-mail**